

WE CLAIM:

1 1. A method for providing information to a radio appliance playing audio content  
2 broadcast by a radio station, comprising the steps of:  
3 receiving a request for information about the audio content from the radio  
4 appliance;  
5 receiving information from the radio appliance indicating the identity of the audio  
6 content;  
7 accessing a database that contains the requested information; and  
8 delivering the requested information to the radio appliance.

1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the request for information, the audio program  
2 identity information, and the requested information are delivered through the Internet.

1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the information indicating the identity of the  
2 audio content consists of a unique radio appliance identifier and an indicator used to  
3 identify the radio station.

1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the information indicating the identity of the  
2 audio content consists of a unique radio appliance identifier and a digitized form of the  
3 audio content.

1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the requested information are details of a musical  
2 work.

1 6. The method of claim 5, wherein the details of a musical work include the identity  
2 of a musical work and the title of a CD that contains the musical work.

1 7. The method of claim 5, wherein the details of a musical work include purchasing  
2 information about the musical work.

1 8. The method of claim 1, wherein:  
2 the audio content is an advertisement that encourages the listener to engage in a  
3 commercial transaction; and  
4 the requested information is details about the commercial transaction.

1 9. The method of claim 8, wherein the details about the commercial transaction  
2 include product details.

1 10. The method of claim 8, wherein the details about the commercial transaction  
2 includes information about completing the commercial transaction.

1 11. The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of receiving a request to  
2 complete the commercial transaction encouraged by the advertisement.

1 12. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of receiving information indicating the  
2 identity of the audio content is done frequently enough to identify all the audio content  
3 being played on the radio appliance.

1 13. The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of receiving information  
2 indicating when the radio appliance has it's volume adjusted.

1 14. The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of receiving information  
2 indicating when the radio appliance is tuned to a different broadcast station.

1 15. The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of receiving information  
2 indicating when the radio appliance is turned off.

1 16. An appliance, comprising:  
2 a radio for receiving and decoding radio waves to play audio content broadcast by  
3 radio stations;  
4 user controls to request information about the audio content.

1 17. The appliance of claim 16, further comprising a communications device that  
2 transmits data about the information requested with the user controls.

1 18. The appliance of claim 17, wherein the audio content is a musical work

1 19. The appliance of claim 17, wherein the audio content is an advertisement.

1 20. The appliance of claim 17, wherein the user controls can be used to complete a  
2 commercial transaction.

1 21. The appliance of claim 17, wherein:  
2 the audio content is an advertisement that encourages the listener to engage in a  
3 commercial transaction; and  
4 the user controls can be used to complete the commercial transaction encouraged  
5 by the advertisement.

1 22. An appliance, comprising:  
2 a radio for receiving and decoding radio waves to play audio programs broadcast  
3 by radio stations, the radio having features that include adjustable volume,  
4 and radio frequency tuning;  
5 user controls used to access the features; and  
6 a communications device that transmits data indicating which features were  
7 accessed with the user controls.

1 23. A method for monitoring volume on an Internet appliance, comprising the steps  
2 of:  
3 receiving a request to access media content available on the Internet; and  
4 receiving information relating to how the volume was modified while the media  
5 content was received on the Internet appliance.

1 24. An Internet appliance, comprising:  
2 an Internet media device for receiving and decoding media received from sources  
3 on the Internet, the Internet media device having features that include  
4 adjustable volume;  
5 user controls used to access the features; and  
6 a communications device that transmits data indicating which features were  
7 accessed with the user controls.

1 25. The Internet appliance of claim 24, wherein the Internet media device is a  
2 personal computer with a software codec.